

Compilation of Published Data on the Persistence of Bacterium and Viruses

Type of bacterium	Duration of persistence (range)
Acinetobacter spp.	3 days to 5 months
<i>Bordetella pertussis</i>	3 – 5 days
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	up to 6 days
<i>Clostridium difficile</i> (spores)	5 months
<i>Chlamydia pneumoniae</i> , <i>C. trachomatis</i>	≤ 30 hours
<i>Chlamydia psittaci</i>	15 days
<i>Corynebacterium diphtheriae</i>	7 days – 6 months
<i>Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis</i>	1–8 days
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	1.5 hours – 16 months
Enterococcus spp. including VRE and VSE	5 days – 4 months
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	12 days
<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>	≤ 90 minutes
Klebsiella spp.	2 hours to > 30 months
Listeria spp.	1 day – months
<i>Mycobacterium bovis</i>	> 2 months
<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>	1 day – 4 months
<i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i>	1 – 3 days

Source: Kramer, A., Schwebke, I. & Kampf, G. How long do nosocomial pathogens persist on inanimate surfaces? A systematic review. *BMC Infect Dis* **6**, 130 (2006). <https://doi.org/10.1186/1471-2334-6-130>

Note: These findings were under laboratory conditions. Environmental changes can shorten or lengthen the lifespan of the bacteria or viruses.

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Type of bacterium	Duration of persistence (range)
<i>Proteus vulgaris</i>	1 – 2 days
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	6 hours – 16 months; on dry floor: 5 weeks
<i>Salmonella typhi</i>	6 hours – 4 weeks
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	10 days – 4.2 years
Salmonella spp.	1 day
<i>Serratia marcescens</i>	3 days – 2 months; on dry floor: 5 weeks
Shigella spp.	2 days – 5 months
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , including MRSA	7 days – 7 months
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	1 – 20 days
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	3 days – 6.5 months
<i>Vibrio cholerae</i>	1 – 7 days

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Type of virus	Duration of persistence (range)
Adenovirus	7 days – 3 months
Astrovirus	7 – 90 days
Coronavirus	3 hours
SARS associated virus	72 – 96 hours
Coxsackie virus	> 2 weeks
Cytomegalovirus	8 hours
Echovirus	7 days
HAV	2 hours – 60 days
HBV	> 1 week
HIV	> 7 days
Herpes simplex virus, type 1 and 2	4.5 hours – 8 weeks
Influenza virus	1 – 2 days
Norovirus and feline calici virus (FCV)	8 hours – 7 days
Papillomavirus 16	> 7 days
Papovavirus	8 days
Parvovirus	> 1 year
Poliovirus type 1	4 hours – < 8 days

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Type of virus	Duration of persistence (range)
Poliovirus type 2	1 day – 8 weeks
Pseudorabies virus	≥ 7 days
Respiratory syncytial virus	up to 6 hours
Rhinovirus	2 hours – 7 days
Rotavirus	6 – 60 days
Vacciniavirus	3 weeks – > 20 weeks

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